

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 088622
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /023 R

66011

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RKMCKEE:GN

APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:RKMCKEE

-----210437Z 034990 /75

R 201546Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 088622

FOL REPEAT LAHORE 406 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ISLAMABAD
KARACHI DACCA KABUL NEW DELHI PARIS TEHRAN CINCPAC DTD 19 APR.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAHORE 0406

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: PNA REJECTS BHUTTO'S OFFER

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD; (B) ISLAMABAD 3790; (C) LAHORE 0384 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: PNA GENERAL COUNCIL APRIL 18 REJECTED PRIMEMINISTER
BHUTTO'S OFFER TO HOLD FRESH PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS
AND VOWED THAT ANTI-GOVERNMENT MOVEMENT WILL CONTINUE UNTIL
OPPOSITION DEMANDS ARE MET. MAULANA MAUDOODI, PIR OF PAGARO
AND BEGUM WALI KHAN ENDORSED PNA STAND. END SUMMARY.

1. AS PREDICTED IN REFTELS, OFFER MADE BY BHUTTO IN APRIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 088622

17 PRESS CONFERENCE TO HOLD FRESH PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS
WAS REJECTED BY OPPOSITION AS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE. SO CALLED
BAKHTIAR FORMULA AS IT HAS COME TO BE KNOWN, HAD BEEN
PREVIOUSLY REJECTED BY THE PNA TWO DAYS BEFORE. IN SPURNING
OFFER AGAIN, PNA GENERAL COUNCIL ADOPTED RESOLUTION REITERATING
ITS DEMANDS FOR BHUTTO'S RESIGNATION, APPOINTMENT OF A
NEW ELECTION COMMISSION AND FRESH POLLS FOR THE NATIONAL

ASSEMBLY. RESOLUTION STATED THAT BHUTTO'S BAN ON GAMBLING, PARTIAL PROHIBITION OF LIQUOR, RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ENFORCEMENT OF ISLAMIC LAW, CONCESSIONS TO HUTMENT DWELLERS AND SETTING UP COMMISSION TO CHECK CORRUPTION ARE ALL ATTEMPTS TO DIVERT ATTENTION OF PEOPLE FROM MAIN ISSUES, I.E., BHUTTO'S RESIGNATION AND FRESH ELECTIONS.

2. ACTING PNA PRESIDENT NAWABZADA NASRULLAH KHAN ADDRESSED PRESS CONFERENCE AND SAID FIRST AND FOREMOST THING ABOUT ISLAM IS THAT HEAD OF GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE HONEST, BUT THE NATION CANNOT TRUST MR. BHUTTO. A MAN WHO COMES TO POWER THROUGH DISHONESTY, MALPRACTICES AND UNDEMOCRATIC MEANS, HE SAID, HAS NO MANDATE TO ESTABLISH ISLAMIC LAW. NASRULLAH REITERATED PREVIOUS OPPOSITION CHARGES THAT ELECTION RIGGING WAS DONE ON A MASSIVE SCALE AND HAD NO PRECEDENT IN COUNTRY'S HISTORY. ASKED IF HE THOUGHT BHUTTO HAD ARMY SUPPORT, NASRULLAH SAID IF HE DOES, THEN PNA WILL OPPOSE ARMY ALSO. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THE ARMED FORCES WOULD FIGHT FOR THE SAKE OF A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL OR HELP PERPETUATE ONE PARTY RULE. HE SAID THE ARMED SERVICES ARE SERVANTS OF THE STATE. AS SUCH THEY SHOULD DEFEND THE BOARDERS AND DISCHARGE THEIR DUTIES ACCORDINGLY. HE EXPRESS CONFIDENCE THAT BHUTTO WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FACE THE MOVEMENT MUCH ONGER. ASKED IF OPPOSITION WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK TO MR. BHUTTO IF HE ACCEPTED THEIR THREE PRINCIPAL DEMANDS, BUT HELD BACK FROM IMPLEMENTING THEM, NASRULLAH REPLIED THAT THEY WOULD IF HE ANNOUNCED HIS ACCEPTANCE FIRST. IN THAT CASE, THE OPPOSITION WOULD NEGOTIATE WITH HIM AS CHAIRMAN OF HIS PARTY, RATHER THAN AS PRIME MINISTER.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 088622

3. MAULANA MAUDOODI RELEASED PRESS STATEMENT IN LAHORE MONDAY EVENING (APRIL 18) IN WHICH HE STATED THAT IT IS IN BHUTTO'S INTEREST AS CHAIRMAN OF PPP TO HOLD TALKS WITH PNA LEADERSHIP TO FORM AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND HOLD FRESH ELECTIONS. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, NATION HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN BHUTTO AND ELECTIONS COULD NEVER BE HELD FAIRLY UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION. STATEMENT ADDED THAT, CONTRARY TO PRIME MINISTER'S ASSERTION DURING HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, MAUDOODI HAD NO AGREEMENT WITH BHUTTO TO KEEP ANY FORMER DELIVERATIONS WITH HIM SECRET. STATEMENT REJECTED BHUTTO'S PROPOSAL TO RECONSTITUTE COUNCIL OF ISLAMIC IDEOLOGY, CLAIMING ONLY A QUOTE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT COULD DO SO, UNQUOTE. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION, MAUDOODI SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE ARMY WOULD INTERFERE, BUT ASSERTED THAT IT WOULD BE A BAD DAY IN PAKISTAN'S HISTORY IF IT DID.

4. PAKISTAN MUSLIM LEAGUE PRESIDENT PIR OF PAGARO REJECTED BHUTTO'S OFFER TO HOLD PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS AGAIN.

ACCORDING TO A PAGARO SPOKESMAN IN KARACHI, BHUTTO HAS BROKEN SO MANY PROMISES IN THE PAST THAT NATION DOES NOT TRUST HIM ANY MORE. HE MUST IMMEDIATELY RESIGN AND HOLD FRESH ELECTIONS. REGARDING BHUTTO'S NEW ISLAMIC REFORMS, SPOKESMAN SAID PRIME MINISTER WANTS TO DESTROY ISLAM THE SAME WAY HE HAS DESTROYED DEMOCRACY.

5. ADDRESSING A PRESS CONFERENCE IN PESHAWAR APRIL 17, BEGUM WALI KHAN CALLED BHUTTO'S PRESS CONFERENCE DIS-APPOINTING AND JUST ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO CHEAT NATION. SHE SAID HE IS WASTING HIS TIME AND STRUGGLE WILL CONTINUE UNTIL BASIC DEMANDS OF OPPOSITION ARE ACHIEVED.
GAMON

UNQUOTE VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE088622
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RKMCKEE:GN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770138-0339
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770437/aaaabfwj.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 050db1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ISLAMABAD 3790, 77 LAHORE 384
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2746801
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PNA REJECTS BHUTTO'S OFFER
TAGS: PINT, PK, (BHUTTO, ALI)
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/050db1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009